

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 INR-05

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EA-06 SY-04 USSS-00 FBIE-00 EB-07 COME-00

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P 031750Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7147

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 2841

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (WILLIAMS, ERIC) ASEC TD US PFOR

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS RETURNS FROM TRIP TO U.S.,
JAPAN AND CHINA

1. LATE ON EVENING OF DECEMBER 2, GOTT PRIME MINISTER DR. ERIC WILLIAMS AND MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE MAHABIR RETURNED TO TRINIDAD FROM THEIR FIVE AND ONE-HALF WEEK ODYSSEY ACROSS THE U.S.A. AND NORTH ASIA.

2. WHEN I MET THEM AT THE AIRPORT PM AND HIS PARTY BOTH EXPRESSED EXHILARATION AT SUCCESS OF TRIP, WHICH THEY TERMED "OUTSTANDING." WITH REGARD TO SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS IN U.S. I WAS INFORMED THAT ARRANGEMENTS THIS TIME WERE JUST RIGHT AND VERY RESPONSIVE TO THE WISHES DR. WILLIAMS CONVEYED PRIOR TO THE TRIP. INsofar AS I HAVE DETERMINED THUS FAR, NO NEGATIVE INCIDENT COLORED U.S. PORTIONS OF TRIP EXCEPT FOR DISAPPOINTMENT AT UNSEASONABLY COLD WEATHER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA LAST WEEK. (THE PM HAD SENT HIS WINTER CLOTHING HOME A WEEK EARLIER.)

3. DURING SEVERAL DAYS PAUSE WITH DAUGHTER ERICA IN FLORIDA ENROUTE HOME, WILLIAMS AND MAHABIR COMPLETED A FULL REPORT TO CABINET AND PEOPLE ON RESULTS OF TRIP. PM STATED THAT HE WILL REPORT TO CABINET IN CLOSED SESSION ON THURSDAY AND MAKE A FULL
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PUBLIC REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6.

4. WE ANTICIPATE REPORT WILL FOCUS ON DUAL ASPECTS OF TRIP:

A) INVESTMENT AND JOINT VENTURE DISCUSSIONS WITH U.S. AND JAPANESE BUSINESSMEN; AND B) GOODWILL VISIT TO CHINA. MAHABIR TOLD ME THAT THEY HAD FAR MANY MORE INTERESTING OFFERS FROM BUSINESSMEN THAN TRINIDAD COULD USE. HE WAS OBVIOUSLY FEELING EXHILARATED THAT THIS PUT TRINIDAD IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT TO PICK AND CHOOSE THE INVESTORS OR PARTNERS WHICH OFFERED THE BEST DEALS.

5. ON BASIS OF LENGTHY DISCUSSIONS WITH FONOFF PERMANENT SECRETARY ABDULAH AND PM'S PERSONAL PHYSICIAN DR. COURTENEY BARTHOLOMEW REGARDING THE CHINA VISIT I WILL BE SUBMITTING AN AIRGRAM WHICH MAY INCLUDE ITEMS OF INTEREST TO DEPARTMENT.

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